

ALEUTIAN ISLANDS RESERVATION.

The Aleutian Islands Reservation was created by an Executive order of March 3, 1913. It embraces all islands of the Aleutian chain, including Unimak and Sannak Islands on the east, and extending to and including Attu Island on the west. By the terms of the Executive order the islands within the reservation are reserved and set apart as a preserve and breeding ground for native birds, for the propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals, and for the encouragement and development of the fisheries. Provision is made that the establishment of the reservation shall not interfere with the use of the islands for light-house, military, or naval purposes, or with the extension of the work of the Bureau of Education on Unalaska and Atka Islands. Jurisdiction in respect to the reservation was placed with the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce. The joint regulations, effective March 15, 1914, promulgated by the two departments are still operative. They are as follows:

~~(Two copies attached for printer's use)~~

1. In compliance with existing laws and to carry out the objects of the Executive order establishing the reservation, all matters relating to wild birds and game, and the propagation of reindeer and fur-bearing animals will be under the immediate jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture; all matters pertaining specifically to the fisheries and all aquatic life, and to the killing of fur-bearing animals, will be under the immediate jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce; and all matters other than those specifically mentioned above will be under the joint jurisdiction of the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce.

2. Persons residing within the limits of the reservation on March 3, 1913, will be permitted to continue to so reside, and to carry on any lawful business not interfering with the purposes of the reservation.

3. Residents of the reservation desiring to engage in commercial fishing, or the hunting, trapping, or propagation of fur-bearing animals or game animals, must first secure a permit to do so.

4. Anyone desiring to enter the reservation for the purpose of fishing, hunting, trapping or propagating fur-bearing animals or game animals, or engaging in commercial fishing, salmon canning, salmon salting, or otherwise curing or utilizing fish or other aquatic products, or for the purpose of engaging in any lawful business, must first obtain a permit to do so.

5. Whenever, in the propagation of fur-bearing animals, it shall be found to be necessary to kill such of these animals as interfere with the work of the Department of Agriculture in this behalf, they may be killed under the supervision of said department, and no permit will be required therefor.

6. *Fishery permits.*—Application for permission to engage in fishing or fishery operations should give full information on the following points: Name and permanent

address of the person or company desiring the permit; character of business proposed, whether fishing, canning, salting, or otherwise curing fish or other aquatic products; character and extent of proposed plant and its location; method and extent of the fishing proposed, place or places where fishing is to be carried on, and when active operations are to begin.

7. *Trapping and hunting permits.*—Applications for permission to engage in trapping, hunting or propagating fur-bearing animals or game animals should give the name of the person desiring the permit and the island or islands on which it is proposed to operate. At present no permits will be issued for trapping or hunting fur-bearing animals except to natives of the reservation.

8. *Permits to ship live foxes from the reservation.*—For the present no permits will be issued for capture and shipment of live foxes from the reservation, except domestic stock from established fox farms.

9. Permits to enter the reservation for the purpose of engaging in any business will be granted only when the department concerned is convinced that, by so doing, the objects for which the reservation was established will not be endangered thereby.

10. *Collecting permits.*—Permits to enter the reservation for the purpose of collecting birds, mammals, or other natural-history specimens for scientific purposes will be granted only to properly accredited representatives of the United States Government or agents of public museums.

11. *Reindeer and caribou.*—The killing of reindeer and caribou on any of the islands of the reservation is hereby prohibited except under special permit.

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It will be noted that section 3 of the regulations provides that residents of the reservation desiring to engage in commercial fishing must first secure a permit to do so. Natives of the reservation catch salmon, cod, herring and other fishes for their own use and it has been their custom to sell a few fish to the white residents and to vessels stopping within the reservation. This affords the natives an opportunity to improve their condition, and it is not the intention of the Bureau at present to require that permits be secured to cover the operations of natives, residents of the reservations, who, in addition to taking fish for their own domestic purposes, take fish for sale locally, that is, within the reservation, and in limited quantities.

In December, 1914, a permit, expiring December 31, 1915, was issued to Mr. A. C. Goss, of Unalaska, authorizing him to take Attu mackerel in the vicinity of Attu Island and red salmon in the vicinities of Unalak and Unalaska Islands. It was stipulated that all work in connection with the taking of the fish and their subsequent preparation for market should be performed by Aleuts or Indians who were residents of the reservation.

A brief account of the work which Mr. Goss did in connection with Attu mackerel is given on page ____.

In March, 1915, a permit was issued authorizing Mr. A. B. Somerville, of Unalaska, to take red salmon in the vicinity of Attu Island. The same requirement was made in regard to the employment of native labor as was made in Mr. Goss' permit. The permit was subsequently extended to include mackerel.